

REMARKS

There are no amendments to the claims. Claims 1-66 are in the application for consideration.

This Request for Continued Examination is submitted in an abundance of caution to place certain references before the Examiner for consideration. The references are referred to in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement presented herewith.

In addition, the above-mentioned Supplemental Information Disclosure includes co-pending patent applications originally submitted by the Applicant in an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) dated and filed August 30, 2004, which were crossed off by the Examiner. While copies of said applications were properly filed with the August 30, 2004 IDS, courtesy copies are again presented herewith. Also presented herewith are copies of the August 30, 2004 IDS, the PTO-stamped return receipt postcard evidencing receipt thereof, and sheet 5 of 5 of the Form PTO-1449 showing the citations crossed off by the Examiner.

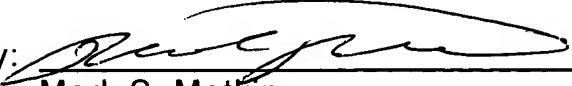
That the Examiner must consider all citations properly submitted in accordance with the Rules, as well as initial each cited prior art reference on a submitted Form PTO-1449 is not seen by the undersigned as being discretionary with the Examiner. See MPEP §609(III)(C)(2) and MPEP §609(D). Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial the co-pending applications re-submitted herewith and, as well, return a copy of the initialed Form PTO-1449 to the undersigned.

This application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance,
and action to that end is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 5-26-05

By:


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